

SOTTO VOCE.

A NUMBER of attorneys whose principal business it is to sit in court and vie with each other in squinting tobacco juice at imaginary targets, looked during the late trials as if they cursed the protecting act that disqualified them from becoming subject to an open venire.

IF ANY one doubts that the prosecution in the recent trials has been conducted with vindictiveness, he should have been present at the recent Connelly trial and heard the questions, as well as the manner of asking them, put by Mr. Varian to Messrs. Woodman and Loder—two of the gentlemen who were so blackguarded by the filthy Tribune for giving a verdict according to their convictions in the Clawson case. Mr. Varian, recently Mr. Bennett's imputation only a few days before that non-Mormon were influenced by that sheet, but he himself showed as complete a falling into line with its infamous opinions, as the most sulphurous, brimstone-emitting Mormon-eater Mr. Bennett could have had in his mind.

THE WONDERFUL unanimity of feeling which prevails in the mutual breasts of Utah's Chief Justice and her United States Attorney, is more suggestive of the Millennium than any one symptom that has lately come under our notice. If they have disagreed in a single instance since they began drawing their salaries and dealing out personal opinions, cut on the bias, in the Third Judicial District of this Territory, then the eagle eye of a reporter with whom insomnia is a family heirloom, has failed to discover it. "I concur with the prosecution," has become as proverbial in act, as "The witness may answer the question" is in speech. Verily the day cometh when the lion and the lamb will lie down together with the lamb inside.

It is becoming more evident every day that the defense in a trial for polygamy is a mere matter of formality. What with packed juries, a partisan judge, a prosecuting attorney who has "pledged his reputation" to put down polygamy, and a sleuth-hound press waiting to track to social and political death any juror honest enough to act on his convictions, it begins to look as if the accused party's most economical plan, whether innocent or guilty, would be to plead guilty, save lawyers' fees, secure the clemency of the court, and go to prison and wait patiently for Governor Murray to come along with the "copper act."

AT THE close of the Clawson trial, when the jury brought in the verdict of guilty, one of our Federal officials, a man very fond of display and bombast was so delighted with the result that he was unable to control himself, and with a broad grin and hearty chuckle he remarked to one of his associates: "I guess there is some law after all, isn't there?" We don't know how he felt or what he said after the humiliating collapse of the Connelly trial, but we would advise him to wait until such matters are finally passed upon by the Supreme Court, where, from all present appearances, some one else will have it to say: "I guess there is some law here after all."

THE POLITICAL agitation, which is creating so much excitement east, though it affects us but very little here, had so far aroused the members of the University's two debating clubs, the Zeta Gamma and Delta Phi, that they resolved to meet in friendly debate one evening last week and discuss the principles of the two great political parties now in existence, as set forth in their platforms. The debate was not confined, however, to the platforms alone, but also to the actual principles of each party as exhibited in their public doings. After the question had been ably handled by both sides, before a large and interested audience, the judges gave their decision in favor of the Democrats. This shows which way education will incline the young politician to take.

THE LENGTHY report which appeared in our columns the other day purporting to give particulars of the magnificent reception tendered Blaine in New York city by ministers of the gospel, even if we admit its truth, shows none the less the low political trickery to which the present Republican candidate is capable of resorting in order to gain his point. His conduct reminds us very much of that of the dealer or public trader in patent medicines, especially those for private diseases, and if the country should be so unfortunate as to choose him for President for the ensuing four years, we will doubtless be made very sensible of the comparison when his medicines get time to work. He has exhibited himself like the long-haired charlatan who claims to cure corns instantaneously, whose panacea stops all pains, or whose stomach pad makes a new man of you. But as the limited time will not enable him to reach all parts of the land, he must have this testimonial signed by the Rev. Mr. Soandso and others in order to dupe the ignorant and unsuspecting as to his high merits, and thus to secure their votes in his favor.

THE WIZARD-LIKE methods of legallegerdemain employed by Attorney Dickson, to get matters before the jury which by ordinary rules of evidence and in any other court under heaven but the one where he sits as prime minister, would have even less chance of being admitted than Captain Smith has of getting into Congress, would be vastly amusing were they not even more reprehensible. By systematic badgering and bulldozing, politely administered of course, witnesses are made to say something they never meant to say, have no right to say, and what even Judge Zane cannot permit them to say; an objection follows from the defense, and the amiable prosecutor obligingly explains: "Oh, well, we have no objection to withdrawing the question." Objection, indeed! Why should he have, when the question he had no right to ask has been already answered, and the answer rammed down the muzzle of the judicial cannon, whence a verdict is to be fired at the hapless wretch who sits trembling behind his gagged and fettered attorneys, and dreams of equal rights, blind justice, the presumed innocence of the accused, and other old-time fables long since obsolete, once popular in the days of Columbia's babyhood?

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